

Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554

In re Applications of)	MM DOCKET NO. 97-128
)	
Martin W. Hoffman,)	
Trustee-in-Bankruptcy for Astroline)	File No. BRCT-881201LG
Communications Company Limited)	
Partnership)	
)	
For Renewal of License of)	
Station WHCT-TV, Hartford, Connecticut)	
)	
SHURBERG BROADCASTING OF HARTFORD)	File No. BPCT-831202KF
)	
For Construction Permit for a New)	
Television Station to Operate on)	
Channel 18, Hartford, Connecticut)	
TO: The Honorable John M. Frysiak		
Administrative Law Judge		

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

THIRD CONSENT MOTION
FOR FURTHER EXTENSION OF PROCEDURAL DATES

1. Shurberg Broadcasting of Hartford ("SBH") hereby requests (with the consent of all other parties) a further 60-day extension of all procedural dates herein.

2. In December, 1997, SBH sought an extension of procedural dates herein based on settlement discussions then underway. Since that time, those discussions have resulted in a preliminary tentative alignment of the interests of SBH, Two If By Sea Broadcasting Corporation ("TIBS"), and Martin Hoffman relative to a general proposal advanced to those parties by a prospective "white knight" interested in acquiring Station WHCT-TV. The proposal(s) advanced by the "white knight" were the

subject of parallel negotiations over the last several months. ^{1/} As of February 2, 1998, it appeared that a settlement had been agreed to. However, several days later counsel for the "white knight" informally advised counsel for SBH and counsel for TIBS, separately, that the "white knight" was withdrawing from further discussions concerning resolution of this proceeding.

3. Further efforts were made to confirm that the "white knight" really was withdrawing from these discussions. Both counsel for SBH and counsel for TIBS sought confirmation from counsel for the "white knight", and according to counsel for TIBS, TIBS principal Micheal Parker spoke directly on a number of occasions with the dominant principal of the "white knight". While there appeared, in some of those contacts, to be some indications that the "white knight" had not broken off all discussions, the most recent information available to undersigned counsel indicates that the "white knight" has, in fact, decided not to pursue this matter further. ^{2/}

^{1/} By "parallel negotiations", SBH means that SBH negotiated with the third party "white knight" separately from TIBS. That is, SBH negotiated a deal for itself, while TIBS negotiated a deal for itself. TIBS also initiated settlement discussions with Mr. Hoffman and, at the conclusion of negotiations, SBH and TIBS tentatively agreed to take appropriate steps to assure Mr. Hoffman a figure acceptable to him. In other words, while SBH, TIBS and Mr. Hoffman did not negotiate a single deal among themselves and while SBH and TIBS are not aware of the terms of each other's negotiated deals with the "white knight", at the conclusion of the negotiations it did appear that SBH, TIBS and Mr. Hoffman had identified a mutually agreeable basis for resolving this proceeding.

^{2/} Undersigned counsel has requested formal written confirmation of this from counsel for the "white knight". To date, no such confirmation has been provided.

4. Notwithstanding this latest unforeseen turn of events, undersigned counsel's conversations with counsel for TIBS and counsel for Mr. Hoffman suggest a willingness on the part of those two parties to continue to pursue some mutually agreeable resolution of this proceeding. SBH is also willing to continue to seek some such resolution of this matter. Accordingly, SBH believes that, in the interest of conserving the time and resources of the parties, it would be appropriate to extend the procedural dates herein in order to permit the parties to focus their attention on settlement efforts. Further, SBH intends to proceed with its discovery efforts in the meantime, as well as its efforts to reach stipulations with other parties concerning relevant facts so that, ideally, this case will progress either by settlement or through hearing. ^{3/} In view of all of the above, SBH hereby requests that all procedural dates in this proceeding be extended sixty (60) days.

5. Counsel for Mr. Hoffman, Mr. Ramirez, TIBS and the Mass Media Bureau have all consented to the requested extension.

^{3/} As SBH indicated in its previous request for extension of procedural dates, SBH intended to continue to pursue some limited discovery. For example, SBH had requested production of documents from the law firm of Peabody & Brown ("P&B"). SBH has been in contact with counsel for P&B and understands that the documents have been identified and reviewed by P&B representatives, and are ready for production to SBH. However, P&B's counsel has advised that, for various reasons, they would prefer not to produce the documents if this case may be settled without further litigation. In accommodation of that preference, SBH has thus far not pressed for production of the documents. However, in view of the apparent departure of the "white knight", SBH believes it appropriate to proceed with review of the P&B documents at this time.

WHEREFORE, for the reasons stated, Shurberg Broadcasting of Hartford hereby requests that all procedural dates in the above-captioned proceeding be extended for sixty (60) days.

Respectfully submitted,


/s/ ~~Harry F. Cole~~
Harry F. Cole

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Counsel for Alan Shurberg d/b/a
Shurberg Broadcasting of Hartford

February 24, 1998

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that, on this 24th day of February, 1998, I caused copies of the foregoing "Third Consent Motion for Further Extension of Procedural Dates" to be placed in the U.S. Postal Service, first class postage prepaid, or hand delivered (as indicated below), addressed to the following:

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/s/ Harry F. Cole
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